



Income Supports and Supportive Services Subgroup Meeting Minutes March 6, 2009

Attendees

- Cathy Truss
- Pat Caruso
- Betty Zylstra
- Jennifer Stewart
- Paul Beiring
- David McConnell (PPA)

Discussion Items

Goals for This Meeting

- Go through each of the action items and check progress
- Review and clarify timelines and outcomes

Review of Progress on Action Items

Action 2.1.1: Identify Best Practices in Supportive Services

- This team is moving forward in building a “best practices” model.
 - For instance, in Traverse City they are linking all varieties of poverty initiatives and collaboratively solving poverty issues.
- With the federal stimulus money in, perhaps some of that could factor into certain models.
 - Someone could try to look at these practices and try to juxtapose that with the stimulus efforts.
 - Perhaps this idea can be passed along to the DRT.
 - This money could work as a bridge, something to help make the switch.
 - It might be possible to use money that is currently being used for something else for a new model or program.
- Cathy will send Paul contact info for John Stevenson at Traverse City Poverty Reduction Initiative (PRI).

Action 2.1.2: Identify Barriers to Supportive Services

- This team has not met.
- Pat was granted approval to pull together a group to sit down and discuss barriers.
 - It will probably be about six to eight weeks before they can get together.

Action 2.2: Revisit the 2-1-1 System

- This team is looking at 2-1-1 going statewide.
 - There is an effort to find the funding to do that.

Action 2.3: Investigate Service Provider Database or Resource Portal

- Michigan portal went live last week.
 - Hopefully there can be a similar portal for services.
- This team is going to contact the Department of Information Technology (DIT) and see if there can be a subset of the Michigan portal that can be useful to service providers.

Action 3.2: Review United Way Benefits Software Evaluation

- A vendor has been selected, but the funding has not been nailed down yet.
- The chosen vendor does have a built-in funding component, which would deliver the first-year cost.

Action 4.1: Identify Strategies for Overcoming Transportation Barriers

- This team has yet to meet.
- Paul will send Cathy some times for meeting on Tuesday.

Other Updates

- Ideas for e-newsletter
 - The workgroup is curious if the action plans will be included.
 - Perhaps a request for best practices can be included.
 - ◆ Can put Paul down as the contact for these.
 - We could look for ideas about transportation and getting services to the people who need them, as well.
- Some people on the workgroup are not receiving e-mails from the Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA).
- This workgroup should explore setting a different day and time for these meetings
 - Nancy Ridley can help with this.

Next Meeting

- Friday, April 3, 2009, at 1:30 p.m.